

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, September 5.

What do you think of Harrison's letter of acceptance? will be the question of the hour on all sides for a few days. The answer will depend on the speaker; if a Democrat or People's Party man he will say something about "just about what I expected," and the "same old story"; and if a Republican "great letter from Great President," and "ought to be enough to elect him." Seriously, the letter gives evidence of the care that President Harrison gives to all of his official writings, both in its language and in its sentiment, which is on a par with what any one might expect after reading the Republican national platform. No one really expected to find anything differing from any of the planks in his party's platform, or in addition thereto, in Mr. Harrison's letter accepting the nomination, and no one is in that respect disappointed. From a literary point of view the letter is tip-top; but its length is entirely too great.

Those veterans of the G. A. R. who did not get in their application for free sleeping quarters during the National Encampment before the close of last week will get left, as the Committee has given notice that having assigned free quarters to fifty-five thousand men, and having spent all the money allotted for that purpose, it will be unable to furnish any more. This is in accordance with the original instructions sent to every post in the United States, notifying them that application for free quarters must be made to the Committee in Washington before September 1. Sleeping accommodations, at a reasonable price, in private residences, can still be procured for thousands, through the Committee, which has the location, accommodation, and prices on its books. There is no truth in reports sent from here to the effect that the citizens of Washington were disposed to regard the whole affair as a money-making scheme, and were preparing to gouge all classes of visitors. These reports are a cruel slander upon those who have contributed more money than was ever raised by private subscription in any city that ever entertained the G. A. R. There may, of course, be single cases of extortion—there would be anywhere; but it is safe to guarantee that those who engage their accommodations through the Committee will pay no more than would be charged for similar accommodations in any large city, and will get precisely what they engage.

President Harrison's quarantine proclamation was what was considered by members of the Cabinet and others who were consulted before it was made public a "justifiable bluff" to prevent the steamship lines taking immigrants from the infected European ports for the United States, and from information since received it will be successful. It was very well known to the President and the members of the Cabinet that the National Government has no legal authority to override or set aside the health regulations and laws of any state; but it was expected that the proclamation would be endorsed by the State Boards of Health, which would make it as binding as if it were actually a law, and a number of them have approved the proclamation. So far as known the only "kicker" is the Health Officer of New York city, and no fears are entertained of any serious clash with him; but if he should try to make trouble the Attorney General will at once recommend to President Harrison the calling of an extra session of Congress to pass a law putting the control of all quarantine against foreign countries in charge of national authorities. It would be a blow to "State's rights," but at such a time of general peril the benefit of the whole country would probably outweigh, in the eyes of Congress, any injury that might be done to theories of any sort by the passage of such a law. The true theory of government is the greatest good to the greatest number.

Owing to the unexpected ordering of the Concord to Venezuela and the Kearsarge to the West Indies, the Navy Department has informed the Citizens' Committee that it will not be able to have any war vessels at Washington during the G. A. R. Encampment, so the old tars will have to content themselves with looking at the model of the old Kearsarge, which will be the most marked feature of Grand Army Place. The Concord and the Kearsarge, as representatives of the old navy and the new navy, had been ordered to Washington to remain during encampment week. There are no other vessels available of light enough draft to come up the Potomac as far as Washington.

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Advt.



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